

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 018230

EXDIS TOVIP 18, PASS TO ASST. SEC. HARTMAN WITH VP/S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PDIP, FR, US

SUBJECT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON SECRETARY VANCE.

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET CALLED ON SECRETARY VANCE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 25 FOR A REVIEW OF MAJOR POLICY ISSUES. THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED:

2. NON-PROLIFERATION -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET ASKED WHETHER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WISHED TO REAFFIRM THE INVITATION FOR VISITS OF TWO GROUPS OF FRENCH OFFICIALS TO WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DISCUSS NON-PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR ENERGY ISSUES. ONE GROUP OF FRENCH OFFICIALS (DE NAZELLE/ GOLDSCHMIDT) HAD BEEN INVITED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT TENTATIVELY FOR FEBRUARY 13 TO DISCUSS ISSUES RELATED TO THE LON-
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DON SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE. ANOTHER GROUP HAD BEEN INVITED TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL PROBLEMS OF THE PROLIFERATION OF FUSION TECHNOLOGY. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO WHEN THE USG WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO RECEIVE THESE VISITS AND BE BACK TO THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR. (FYI: MEMO HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SECRETARY WITH A RECOMMENDED RESPONSE ON THIS QUESTION.)

3. ABU DAOUD -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET SAID THAT US PUBLIC PROTESTS SEEMED TO BE QUIETING DOWN. HE HAD TALKED TO SENATOR SPARKMAN AND SUCCEEDED IN MODERATING THE SENATE RESOLUTION, AND HAD ALSO SEEN CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI IN AN EFFORT TO DO THE SAME THING IN THE HOUSE. HIS GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, APPRECIATED THE MODERATE RESPONSE WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER HAD GIVEN WHEN PRESSED TO TAKE A STAND ON THIS MATTER. HE HOPED THAT THIS AFFAIR WOULD NOT DO TOO MUCH DAMAGE AT A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT LEVEL. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT NO DAMAGE WOULD BE DONE ON THAT LEVEL, AND THAT HE FELT THE PUBLIC REACTION WOULD EVENTUALLY QUIET DOWN.

4. MIDDLE EAST -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET REFLECTED THAT WHENEVER PROSPECTS FOR A SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST IMPROVED, EXTREMISTS ON BOTH SIDES BEGAN EFFORTS TO PREVENT IT. THERE WERE THOSE WHO WERE NOW USING THE ABU DAOUD AFFAIR TO THAT END. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD, NEVERTHELESS, CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE REFERRED, IN THIS CONNECTION, TO TALKS BETWEEN PLO REPRESENTATIVES AND ISRAELI POLITICAL FIGURES GOING ON IN PARIS, AND THE VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE USG. THE SECRETARY AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE DESIRABLE. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET FELT THAT THE TIME WAS RIGHT FOR PROGRESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THAT THE OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE SEIZED QUICKLY. THE SECRETARY AGREED AND SAID THAT WAS WHY HE WAS VISITING THE MIDDLE EAST SO EARLY. THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP WOULD BE TO MEET WITH LEADERS AND

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TO ASCERTAIN THEIR VIEWS ON HOW A SETTLEMENT COULD BE REACHED. THIS WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER FOR THE USG TO HAVE A BASIS TO COMPLETE ITS THINKING. IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE, THE SECRETARY SAID, TO GO TO GENEVA WITHOUT A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT COULD BE EXPECTED TO RESULT. IF A GENEVA CONFERENCE FAILED, THE SITUATION WOULD BE WORSE THAN IF IT HAD NOT BEEN HELD. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAD MADE THIS POINT WITH WALDHEIM IN ORDER THAT WALDHEIM NOT GET LOCKED INTO ANY PARTICULAR DATE FOR THE RENEWAL OF A GENEVA CONFERENCE.

5. CYPRUS -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEANS ON CERTAIN PRINCIPLES FOR A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT AND THAT THE EUROPEANS HAD AGREED TO SUPPORT THE US PROPOSALS. HE WONDERED HOW THE NEW ADMINISTRATION NOW INTENDED TO PROCEED. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE USG WOULD FIRST HAVE TO COMPLETE ITS REVIEW OF THE SITUATION. TO ASSIST IT IN DOING SO, THE USG WOULD IN THE NEAR FUTURE BE SENDING AN EMISSARY TO VISIT GREECE, TURKEY, AND CYPRUS AND THEN TO CONSULT

WITH THE EC; ONCE THIS FACT-FINDING MISSION WAS COMPLETED, THE USG WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO COME UP WITH SUGGESTIONS. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET ASKED ABOUT THE DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH GREECE WAS NOT YET COMPLETED AND THAT THE TURKISH AGREEMENT WAS UNLIKELY TO COME BEFORE THE

SENATE UNTIL AFTER THE ADMINISTRATION HAD COMPLETED ITS REVIEW.

5. US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PLEASED WITH THE PRESENTATION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AT NATO. HE HAD HEARD REPORTS THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION HAD ALREADY ELABORATED A NEW DOCTRINE OR APPROACH TOWARD THE US/EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP. THIS WAS, HE NOTED, A VERY TOUCHY MATTER FOR FRANCE. THE SECRETARY ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE USG HAD NO GREAT NEW SCHEME FOR US/CONFIDENTIAL

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EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN MIND.

6. EAST-WEST RELATIONS -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET WONDERED ABOUT REPORTS THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION INTENDED TO CONSTRUCT A NEW DEFINITION OF DETENTE. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION THE US WOULD TRY TO ARRIVE AT A MORE PRECISE AGREEMENT ON WHAT KIND OF CONDUCT MIGHT BE EXPECTED OF BOTH SIDES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DETENTE RELATIONSHIP.

7. ECONOMIC SUMMIT -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET INQUIRED ABOUT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SUMMIT SHOULD COVER POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC MATTERS. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT SINCE THIS SUMMIT WOULD BE THE FIRST OCCASION ON WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SIT DOWN WITH A NUMBER OF HIS FOREIGN COLLEAGUES, IT SEEMED DESIRABLE THAT CERTAIN POLITICAL ISSUES SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN ADDITION TO THE IMPORTANT ECONOMIC MATTERS WHICH THE SUMMIT WOULD CONSIDER. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET REPLIED THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THIS.

8. CONCORDE -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE VERY POPULAR IN FRANCE IF HE COULD SUCCESSFULLY URGE GOVERNOR CAREY TO ALLOW THE CONCORDE TO LAND IN NEW YORK. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT GOVERNOR CAREY WAS AWARE OF THE IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF THIS ISSUE AND THAT THE DECISION WAS ESSENTIALLY IN HIS JURISDICTION. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET NOTED THAT THIS CONCEPT OF SEPARATION OF POWERS WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE FRENCH TO GRASP.

9. SOUTHERN AFRICA -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET REFERRED TO THE RECENT BAD NEWS REGARDING EFFORTS TOWARD A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT THIS SETBACK SHOULD NOT BE OVER-DRAMATIZED. WE MUST TRY TO HELP THE BRITISH
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TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE. HE FELT THAT SMITH WAS SERIOUSLY MISCALCULATING THE SITUATION. THE US CONGRESS WOULD PROBABLY REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND, IN THE

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ABSENCE OF PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT, THE SECRETARY FELT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN TO LOOK AT WHAT OTHER SORTS OF SANCTIONS MIGHT BE APPLIED. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS READY TO WORK WITH THE US AND THE UK AND FELT THAT THE SITUATION WAS QUITE EXPLOSIVE. THE SECRETARY AGREED THAT IT WAS.

10. VISITS -- KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET INQUIRED ABOUT REPORTS THAT CALLAGHAN AND SCHMIDT WOULD BE VISITING WASHINGTON. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT CALLAGHAN, AS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, WOULD BE COMING FAIRLY EARLY -- PROBABLY IN MARCH. NO DATE HAD AS YET BEEN SET FOR A VISIT BY SCHMIDT.

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